Nova Scotia

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending
December 31, 1989

Environmental Control Council

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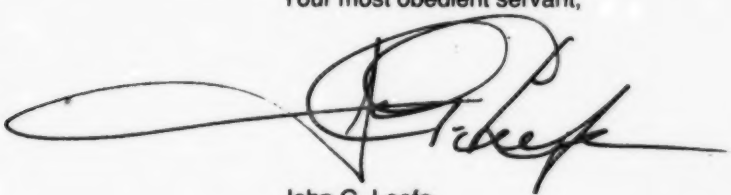
To His Honour
The Honourable Lloyd R. Crouse, P.C.
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia

May It Please Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Nova Scotia Environmental Control Council for the year ending December 31, 1989.

I have the honour to be, Sir:

Your most obedient servant,



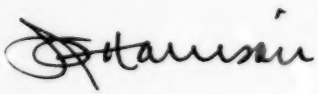
John G. Leefe
Minister

Honourable John G. Leefe
Minister of the Environment
Province of Nova Scotia

Dear Minister:

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Nova Scotia Environmental Control Council for the year ending December 31, 1989.

Respectfully yours,



James L. Harrison
Chairman

INTRODUCTION

The Nova Scotia Environmental Control Council is a citizens' advisory board appointed to advise the Minister of the Environment. The Council, established under the Environmental Protection Act, Statutes of Nova Scotia 1973, Chapter 6.SNS 1973C.6, represents the interests of the environment and general public in resource decisions.

This Annual Report is submitted under Section 16 of the Environmental Protection Act and describes Council activities during the 1989 calendar year.

STRUCTURE

The Nova Scotia Environmental Protection Act, Chapter 6 of the Statutes of Nova Scotia, sets out the composition, function, and responsibilities of the Environmental Control Council.

The Act provides for 12 to 15 members to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council to represent eleven specific disciplines or sectors of society: Academic, Agriculture, Conservation, Engineering, Fishery, Forestry, Health, Industry, Labour, Legal, and Municipal. In addition, the members of Council are expected to reflect, in so far as possible, the concerns of their geographic communities during Council deliberations.

The Deputy Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment is an ex-officio member of the Council. The Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Minister.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IN 1989

Discipline	Name	Expiry Date of Appointment
Academic	Marguerite Lloyd South Berwick	April 3, 1990
Agriculture	Bruce Rand Dalhaven	February 9, 1991
Conservation	James Harrison Dartmouth	April 3, 1990
Engineering	Michael McGill Truro	May 2, 1990
Fisheries	Crosby McLeod Port Mouton	June 30, 1990
Forestry	Norman MacIsaac Goshen	March 1, 1991
Health	Edison Skinner Pictou	May 2, 1990
Industry	Harold Dobson Liverpool	November 30, 1991

Discipline	Name	Expiry Date of Appointment
Labour	Cecil Wilson New Waterford	May 2, 1990
Legal	Patricia Aikens Halifax	Resigned November, 1989
Municipalities	Lloyd Wilkie North Sydney	March 1, 19[illegible]
Members-at-Large	Melbourne Blinn Little Brook	February 10, 1991
	Donald Bragg Halifax	February 9, 1991
	Shirley Nicholson Halifax	February 9, 1991
	Sandra Stafford Brooklyn	February 9, 1991

Executive Members

Marguerite Lloyd
South Berwick

Edison Skinner
Pictou

James Harrison, Chairman
Dartmouth

The representative on Council from the legal profession, Ms. Patricia Aikens, resigned on November 20, 1989 after accepting a position in the Northwest Territories and was not replaced in 1989.

Mr. Harold Dobson of Liverpool was appointed as a representative from the industry sector on December 1, 1989.

The Secretary of the Council, James MacDonald of Sydney, resigned effective November 7, 1989, after 10 years of meritorious service on the Environmental Control Council. No appointment to this position was made in 1989.

Staff support for office services and research was provided by personnel from the Department of the Environment.

FUNCTION OF COUNCIL

As set out in the Environmental Protection Act, the function of the Environmental Control Council is to:

(a) recommend to the Minister policies, planning, and programs related to the preservation and protection of the environment

(b) review and appraise programs and activities of other persons, government departments, and agencies in light of their impact or effect upon the environment and make recommendations to the Minister—including but not limited to—environmental guidelines for their use

(c) consult and cooperate with other government departments and agencies having duties and responsibilities in relation to the environment

(d) inquire into and report to the Minister upon any matter pertaining to the preservation and protection of the environment

(e) recommend to the Minister regulations and standards for the preservation and protection of the environment

(f) appoint standing or special committees and may delegate to a standing or special committee such authority as the committee requires to perform its functions and duties

(f) perform such other acts and duties as may be assigned to the Council by the Governor-in-Council or the Minister

MEETINGS

The Council held three meetings in 1989, while the Executive met on five occasions.

Council Meetings:

April 13 & 14	Halifax
June 13 & 14	Sydney
November 7 & 8	Dartmouth

Executive Committee:

April 13	Halifax
May 27	Halifax
June 13	Sydney
September 13	Dartmouth
November 7	Dartmouth

13TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

The Nova Scotia Council hosted the 13th Assembly of the Canadian Environmental Advisory Councils in Halifax from September 27–29. Two themes formed the basis for workshops and discussions:

- Role of the environmental councils vis-à-vis the round tables on the environment/economy
- Public participation in environmental decision making

Twelve recommendations were agreed upon for reference to the individual provincial councils. In addition, it was moved that the federal Canadian Environmental Advisory Council establish in its Ottawa offices a clearing house for exchange of environmental information between the various councils.

The 14th Assembly of the Canadian Environmental Advisory Councils in 1990 will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT/ECONOMY

Several members of the Environmental Control Council attended the sessions of the Environment/Economy Conference held in Halifax on October 15–17, 1989.

OTHER MEETINGS

On November 5, 1989, the Chairman represented the Environmental Control Council at a reception and dinner sponsored by Dalhousie University's Environmental Management Development in Indonesia Project.

ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL

Halifax Harbour Clean-up Review Committee
The report of the Council's committee was printed late in 1988 and sent to the Minister of the Environment in February, 1989.

Minister's Task Force on Clean Water
The Chairman of the Environmental Control Council was appointed a member of this task force by the Minister in 1989.

Council's Function
For the benefit of the new members of Council, the Chairman went over the functions and responsibilities.

Environment 89/90
Deputy Minister Armand Pinard outlined the Department of the Environment's achievements and planned initiatives for 1989/90.

Environmental Assessment Process
The Environmental Assessment Administrator, William Coulter, reviewed the new Environmental Assessment Act and Regulations and his forecast of possible public consultation meetings that might involve Council members.

Departmental solicitors, Janice Forsythe and Marshall Burgess, outlined the two enabling acts and regulations and the responsibilities of members on the Council.

Task Force on Litter Abatement
Mrs. Dorothy Grant, Chairman of the Task Force on Litter Abatement, addressed the Council on this task force's objectives and initiatives.

Water Management Policies
The Chief, Water Management Section of the Department of the Environment, Lee Lewis, spoke to the Council on water management policies in Nova Scotia.

Sydney Tar Ponds
The Environmental Control Council visited the information trailer at the site of the Sydney Tar Ponds clean-up, where Harry Ryder, Project Manager, described the program of restoration.

STUDIES REQUESTED BY THE MINISTER

During 1989 the Minister requested the Council to carry out for him the following studies:

- a Nova Scotia Fresh Water Export Policy
- a Nova Scotia Power Corporation proposal for a transmission line in Pictou County
- the operation of Ostred Sea Farms Ltd., Halifax County
- the operation of Protan Ltd., Lower Woods Harbour
- a salvage yard operation, Five Islands Lake, Halifax County

MINISTERIAL ORDERS

During 1989 the Executive of the Council received, reviewed and acknowledged copies of the following Ministerial Orders:

Cape Breton Development Corporation	Sydney	January 4
Wendy's Reliable 1979 Ltd.	Halifax	February 17
20th Century Developments Ltd.	Halifax	February 9
Wendy's Reliable 1979 Ltd.	Halifax	May 1
Baird's Septic Waste Disposal	Central Onslow	May 17
Associated Electronics & Metal Salvage Limited	Five Island Lake	June 5
Oxford Frozen Foods	Oxford	June 20
Baird's Septic Waste Disposal	Central Onslow	July 19
Irving Oil Limited	Enfield	August 3
Associated Electronics & Metal Salvage Limited	Five Island Lake	September 13
Cape Breton Development Corporation	Sydney	September 15
Rothsay Rendering Division	Truro	October 6
Village Commissioners of St. Peter's	Richmond County	October 26
Carriage Oak Inn & Properties	Coldbrook	October 25
Neptune Leather Canada Limited	Clam Point	December 4

LEGISLATION

The Environmental Control Council was pleased to note that the following pieces of legislation came into effect during 1989:

Environmental Assessment Act and Regulations
Ozone Layer Protection Act
Youth Conservation Corps Act
Dangerous Goods Storage Regulations
Delegation of Authority Regulations under the Environmental Protection Act
Pest Control Products Regulations
Delegation of Authority Regulations under the Water Act

The Environmental Assessment Act and Regulations, one of the most exciting pieces of new legislation, was proclaimed on July 14, 1989. This broadened considerably the responsibilities of the Environmental Control Council in conducting environmental assessment reviews of certain undertakings.

For example, Section 2(g) of the Environmental Protection Act defines environment as meaning "the air, land and water, or a combination or part thereof within the jurisdiction of the Province". This definition is broadened under the Environmental Assessment Act to include "the social, economic, recreational, cultural and aesthetic conditions and factors that influence the life of humans or a community", as outlined in Section 3(d) under the new legislation.

Under Section 17(2) of the Environmental Protection Act, "The Minister at any time may authorize the Council or the Committee to review decisions made or conduct and hold hearings in relation to plan approvals, permits, orders made by the Minister or Deputy Minister and any other matter pertaining to the preservation and protection of the environment and report and make recommendations to him in relation thereto."

The Council, in addition to its responsibilities under the Environmental Protection Act, has been given the opportunity to become involved in the implementation of the public participation process under the new Environmental Assessment legislation. Section 15(1) of the Act says:

The Council shall

(a) review an environmental assessment in respect of an undertaking referred to the Council by the Minister;
(b) consult with the public in accordance with subsection (1) of Section 16;
(c) recommend to the Minister the approval or disapproval of an undertaking, or conditions which ought to be imposed upon an undertaking if it proceeds;
(d) perform functions and exercise powers conferred upon the Council in respect of the Environmental Protection Act;
(e) perform such functions and exercise such powers as may be assigned to or conferred upon the Council by the Governor-in-Council or the Minister.

Thus, in 1989 the Environmental Control Council prepared to review the proponent's Environmental Assessment Report and prepare for anticipated public consultation meetings regarding the Nova Scotia Power Corporation's proposal to build an electrical generating station at Point Aconi, Cape Breton.

An environmental assessment review panel was formed from the Council for this purpose, consisting of members Shirley Nicholson, Michael McGill, and James Harrison. The Environmental Assessment Report for this undertaking was released to the Environmental Control Council on December 11, 1989, by the Minister. Plans were made to hear submissions at Point Aconi in January 1990.

NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS PROGRAM—1988

The tenth annual Environmental Awards were presented by the Minister, the Honourable John G. Leefe, on April 5, 1989, in the Red Chamber of Province House. The Minister expressed appreciation on behalf of the Government and the people of Nova Scotia to the award winners.

Environmental awards were presented in the following categories:

Business/Industrial

Award:	Neil LeBlanc, Saulnierville Recycling
	Thomas Hankinson, Middleton Solid Waste Recycling
Certificate of Merit:	Seabright Exploration Incorporated Lower Sackville Moose River Mining Projects
	Lorne Costin Excavations and Trucking Limited, Amherst Replacement of Asphalt Plant

Government

Award:	Douglas E. Nauss, Education Asbestos Abatement Program
Certificate of Merit:	Town of Bedford Range Park
	The Village Community of Bible Hill and the Bible Hill Recreation Association The Bible Hill Recreation Park

Education

Award:	Orval Meisner and Rod Keirstead, Caledonia North Queens Recycling Project
Certificate of Merit:	Sydney Mines Junior High Environmental Awareness Program

Professional

Award:	Kent Blades, Clarks Harbour The Guardian
Certificate of Merit:	Eugene Veinotte, P.Eng., Bridgewater Well Drilling

Citizen Organization

Award:	Port Hawkesbury Centennial Project Committee
Certificate of Merit:	Sackville River Improvement Association Clean-up of the Little Sackville River
	Ecology Action Centre, Halifax Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Individual

Award:	Clair Gervais, Lower Sackville Clean Sackville Committee
Certificate of Merit:	Mary Rigby, Dartmouth Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Youth

Certificate of Merit:	Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps

A new category, entitled "Sustainable Development," was established for the 1989 awards program. The Nova Scotia Round Table will select individuals or groups for outstanding achievement in the area of environment/economy, and the award will serve as a meaningful incentive for continued work in this area.

Also, winners in categories corresponding to federal environmental awards categories in 1989 will be forwarded to Ottawa for consideration in the federal awards program.